## PRIDE OF RICHMOND.

THE OLD DOMINION IRON AND NAIL WORKS COMPANY.

OLD INSTITUTION.

Something of Its Romantic Past and Plant at Belle Isle Described in Detail-700 Men Employed.

There have been inaugurated in our city during the past twelve months so many new enterprises which have enjoyed the applause of the people that perance some of our good citizens have overlooked the old and tried institutions bich have for many years given employment to hundreds and thousands of on, and have stood the test of hard es as well as of prosperity.

Foremost among these time-honored in stitutions, which decade after decade have gone quietly along in our commu-nity, yet formed the very bone and sinew of our commercial life, is the Old Domin-fon Iron- and Nail-Works Company. We son from and Nail-Works Company. We doubt if there are now residing in Elchmond fifty citizens who were living in the year when this great enterprise was first established. In sooth the birth of the grand old institution is so remote from this present day of progress and mechanical art that we can scarcely realize the are

chanical art that we can scarcely realize its age.

The works of the company were established on Belle Isle, which has for thirty years been a part of Richmond, in the year 1815. From a small beginning the enterprise grew continuously, until today it is one of Richmond's grandest metitutions. In its past, as now, it has been the mainstay of hundreds of families who year after year have derived their sustenance from the vast sums it has expended in wages and improvements. What citizen is there, be he old or young, who does not associate with Richmond the operations of the Old Dominion Iron- and Nail-Works Company. Day after day it has darkened our skies with the smoke from its furnaces, and night after night it has reddened our heavens with the glare of its fires.

THE PUDDLE-MILL.

THE PUDDLE-MILL. The great puddlo-mill at the Belle-Isle lant can be readily seen from Holly-wood, Gamble's Hill, and other adjacent parts of the city. In this department are an double puddle furnaces, in which pignon and castings are melted, boiled, and onverted into wrought-iron, then rolled at into long bars, preparatory to working into finished products.

THE MANUFACTURE. THE MANUFACTURE OF NAILS.

THE MANUFACTURE OF NAILS.

In the plate-mill from and steel slats are rolled into long, thin sheets, which are cut up into narrow strips, and thence taken on to the Jacent nail-factory, where, amidst the roll and clatter, they are cut into nails, which go all over the country for building houses, barns, fences, and a multitude of other things.

In the rolling-mills will be seen great piles of iron tied up with wire. They are put into furnaces, which suggest the fiery ordeal to which the Hebrew children were subjected. When these piles have the

subjected. When these piles have the proper heat they are taken out and rolled into all shapes and sizes of bar iron, for wason tires, shafting for mills and factories, window bars, parts of ships, locomotives, cars, and thousands of other

THE HORSESHOE FACTORY.

The visitor sees in the horseshoe fac-tory long bars of red-hot fron, bent and present into horseshoes of all sizes and shapes that the trade requires. These shoes go all over this country and into foresten lands.

the Old Dominion Iron- and Nail-At the Old Dominion Iron- and Nail-Works are also made tin roofing plates, the materials for which come from vari-ous parts of the globe-steel from this country and Wales, lead from the West, tin from Malaca, and palm oil from Syria. Many of the best buildings in the South are covered with plates manufactured at the splendid plant of this great enter-

is the bolt capartment. Here rods of iron are put into heavy machines, which upset heads on them, while other machines cut threads on the other end. Nuts are cut out of other shapes and threads put in them by still other machines. These bolts are sold in car-load lots for car- and bridge-building principally, but are used for many other purposes as

company's works cover a large

The company's works cover a large space, having about twelve acres under roof. It has ample storehouses, office, buildings, and yards. All the departments are connected by a private raitroad, as the great enterprise has its own locomotives and cars for this service. So colossal are its operations that this little line is an absolute necessity.

All of the kegs and boxes used in these works are made by the company, as it has a saw-mill and keg-factory located in the timber district of another county.

BUSINESS BOOMING.

It is, a pleasure to go through these works and to breathe the air of thafit which pervades the great plant. Everybody is bucy. The order-books of the company are full of orders, and it keeps the officers moving all the time to get goods ready for shipment. At Presentabout 700 men are employed. This number is quite an increase over the number employed last year. The volume on tonmployed last year. The volume on ton-age in 1839 is about 50 per cent. greater han that of 1838, and we understand the speciations for the coming year greatly seced these figures.

A WELL-EQUIPPED PLANT.

From the foregoing sketch of the Old minion Iron- and Nail-Works, it will seen that the famous institution, ough ripe in years, is still abreast of a times. Indeed, it has, figuratively anking, drunk the fabled waters of control, youth so, vally, sought, by speaking, drunk the fabled waters of perpetual youth so vainly sought by Ponce de Leon, for the present plant of the company has been equipped with the best and most modern of machinery. Today it is thoroughly up-to-date, and must expand still more, if the business continues as it has done in the past twelve-

month.

The president of the company, Mr. Arthus B. Clarke, is a young man of restless energy and unlimited enterprise. His whole time is devoted to the welfare of the great enterprise, and both his executive and creative ability have left their impress on the works. Mr. Clarke has grown up in the iron and steel business, and. If the truth be known, loves it. He takes pride in every tradition of the Old Dominion Company, but never allows this enthusiasm to cause a forgetfulness of the fact shat he is the belimman guiding a giant enterprise, which requires the means thusiness acumen.

THE IMPLEMENT COMPANY.

Concern Well Known Among Southern Farmers.

Southern Farmers.

The Implement Company, a firm wide-y known throughout the South, on account of its low prices, reliability, and promptness, does an immense business, soft retail and wholesale, in agricultural implements, ventelor, farm machinery, to. The concern also does some manuacturing, and is famous for its churns, umpers, corn-shellers, and for its well-mown corn- and cob-crushers. The later have gained widespread popularity, as they are great money-saving inventons, and absolutely necessary to every reli-regulated farm. Wood's new patent hurn, of which the company makes a pectaity, has proved a great "selies," and is everywhere attracting attention. The implement Company, which, by the ray, has at its head Mr. T. W. Wood, whor member of the famous farm of T. V. Wood & Sons, seedsnen, has more ban doubled its business within the last bree years, and now travels many raies-main in Virginia, North mind South Carolini, and parts of Georgia. It is not surviving that it has schieved auch remark-ble nuceess when it is remembered that the house handless almost everything, a larger sould possibly need. Note the fol-

lowing articles, which are included in its

Imperial Chilled Plows. Imperial Chilled Plows.

Bissell and Oliver Chilled Plows.

Dixie and Other Plows and Castings.

Capital and Buckeye Wagons.

Engines, Saw-Mills, Threshers, &c.

Harrows and Corn-Planters.

Ohlo Feed and Ensilage Cutters.

Barbed and Other Wire Fencing.

Ohlo Feed and Enstage Cateria.

Barbed and Other Wire Fencing.

Road Carts, Buggles, and Carriages.

Single and Double Harness.

All Kinds of Farming Implements.

The line of vehicles, saddles, engines, saw-mills, threshers, and roofing handled saw-mills. by the Implement Company is especially attractive. Details about these goods can be obtained from their catalogues, which may be had by writing or applying to their offices, Nos. 1302-1303 cast Main

## A. B. CLARKE & SON HARDWARE CO.

Company. W. E. Saunders, of the firm of Saun-

ders & Chambers, wholeshie groceries.

J. B. Elam, real estate.

M. F. Cox, of Richmond Locomotive-

Wagon Materials, their stock is the largest in the city, consisting of a large

ings here for which they furnished the hardware, are the City Hall, State Library building, Jefferson Hotel, and Chamber of Cominerce. They handle Builders' Hardware of the best manufactures, and in the most artistic designs, port a greatly increased business for the as well as Plain. Polished Bronze or year, and claim that the outlook for the

Dewey's Secretary.

J. B. Crawford, Admiral Dewey's new secretary, is the only commissioned offi-cer in the United States navy who has no commission. The law declares that "there shall be a secretary to the Admiral," but it provides him with no cretenant-not relative, but actual, rank-and the regulations require that this garb shall be the uniform of that rank, modified only by an "S" on the collar in-stead of the usual anchor. The office ceases with the life of the Admiral. Admiral Dewey's secretary is an official aid, not a clerk, and is the personal rep-

for his chief, and at public ceremonics which the Admiral should not attend Mr. Crawford would represent him, says the Army and Navy Journal. He will have Army and Navy Journal. He will nave charge of the Admiral's correspondence-not a small task at present. Admiral Farragut had no secretary. Congress created the office for the benefit of Vice-

Stevens, from Washington to West Point for the purpose of getting certain material for an official report which he had been called upon by the Navy Department to submit. Mr. Stevens put in a claim for mileage, but it was rejected on the ground that the vice-admiral, being retired, had no right to issue orders.

The appointment recalls the experience of Rowan Stevens, secretary of the last vice-admiral belower.

admiral-Admiral Rowan. A month the latter's death the secretary wrote to the paymaster of the Washing-ton navy-yard for his pay. The paymas-ter replied that the secretaryship had expired with the Admiral, and this view was sustained by the Attorney-General.

When Are Women "Old"t

(London Globe.)
According to the advertisements fo head-mistresses of girls' schools in the as the age after which women are re garded as untit to take up serious re-sponsibility. This absurd prejudice in an old-fashioned remnant of the ideas of the eighteenth century, when, as a writer in the Contemporary points out, men and women of 40 and 50 were always spoken of as "aged," and unmarried ladies of 25 were looked upon as hopeless old maids A hundred years ago children of 6 were supposed to have a developed moral sense, as all the grown-up books for little boys and girls published in those days prove to us. Stories of horrible little prigs of school-girls who "set examples" at the school-girls who "set examples" at the age of 10, were common, and at 8 a girl was supposed to relieve her exhausted mother of housework, and to brighten her father's declining years until she should be thought worthy to be the wife the worthy young man, with whom should be thought worthy to be the wife of some worthy young man, with whom she was to sink into premature old age. Nowadays all that is changed, and the period of youthfulness has been largely extended. At 10 a girl is still a child, and at 20 she is still a girl. Even at 30 she is not upon the sheif, while the modern mother, so far Irom being decrepit, when her daughters are grown up, generally looks upon that as a reason for renewing her own youth. Greater menial activity has given freshness and interest to life, and since girls have been taught to life, and since girls have been taught to use their brains, the old-fashioned conception of the necessary failure of power after 35 has become absurd,

Southern Corn Bread.

(Washington Post.)
"I remember once reading some book in which the assertion was made that the North whipped the South because the Union soldiers had wheat bread to eat while the Confederates had to be content with corn pone," said Mr. T. Y. Hindman, of South Carolina, at the National.

"A siffer statement was never made

of Sozth Carolina, at the National.

"A sifier statement was never made, and I will venture that our efficient Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Wilson, would smile at the innocence of the man who would ask him if wheat was more nutritious than maire. Down in the Palmetto state we do not begin by several millious of bushels to raise enough corn to supply our home wants—which it not creditable to us—but still we eat a great deal of corn bread, and I am sure you will find as good men physically among the Carolinians as in any other State of the Union.

Union.
"in some respects the chemists say that meal is better and more wholesome than flode. That it can be made up into many more palatable forms goes without saying. I do not wonder that Eastern people use corn bread sparingly—they don't know how to cook it; but if they could get onto the methods of the old black woman that fix it up so deliciously in every section of the South, it would always thereafter occupy a place of honor on the ramily menu."

Many thousand dollars are brought to Richmond each year by local insur-ance companies, and many thousands are sent away by citizens to foreign companies. Moral: Lasure with Virginia

YEAR IN THE STATE.

PAST TWELVE MONTHS.

MOST GRATIFYING SHOWL G.

Petersburg, Fredericksburg, Staunton, and Other Places-Steady Pro gress and a Bright Outlook

ROANOKE, December 30 .- (Special.)-The year just past is perhaps, all things considered, the best in the history of

including the markets, engine-houses, City Hall, etc. The old opera-house has been converted into an immense armory hall, and neatly furnished. Twenty thou-Works,
G. W. Libby, and John Gariand Pollard
The company now have one of the
largest and handsomest store buildings
in the city-1520 Main street—where can be
found the most select stock of General
Hardware, Cutlery, Guns, Ammunition,
and Heavy Hardware.
In the Department of Carriage and
Wagon Materials, their stock is the
Wagon Materials, their stock is the
work is contemplated; three new, large,
and commodious school buildings were
erected during the past year, including
the West End School, Meirose School,
and the High School, where a commercial and business course is laught. The
schools have enrolled about 400 more pupils this year than ever before, which is an indication that there is a considera-

largest in the city, consisting of a large assortment of Sarven & Warner Patent wheels, fron and Steel Axies, Springs of the different patterns and makes, Bugsy Tops, Dashes, Hubs, Spokes, etc.

This concern gives especial attention to furnishing the hardware for buildings of all kinds—hotels, public buildings, and residences. Among the handsome buildings between the concern gives between the concern gives between the concern gives between the concern gives especial attention to furnishing the hardware for buildings, and residences. Among the handsome buildings here for which they furnished the concern gives between the consideration that there is a consideration. Talks with real estate and rental agents show that there are practically no vacant houses in the city. Many working that real estate is on the move.

During the year than ever before, which is an indication that there is a consideration. Talks with real estate and rental agents show that there are practically no vacant houses in the city. Many working the target part of the consideration that there is a consid

During the year two new wholesale and Gold Plate.

In addition to a large city trade, this company does a jobbing business throughout the Virginians and Carolinas.

year, and claim that the cutlook for the coming year is exceedingly bright. The city has four flour-mills, with a capacity of from 75 to 200 barrels each per day. The Carter Furnaces, formests. The Carter Furnaces, formerly the Crozer, have been overhauled, and the capacity of each largely increased, Furnace, No. 2 went into blast a few days western skies are illumined by its fires, One hundred and sixty men are em-ployed, and early in the year the old

rolling-mill will be put into operation.

A stave and barrel factory, which effiployes from forty to sixty men constant-ly, is one of the new enterprises of the city. Three planing-mills are kept busy, The Central Manufact wing material. The Central Manufacturing Company have made many improvements to their plant, and have contemplated spending several thousand dollars more. The Roanoke Machine-Works employ 1.-209 men, and are compelled to run many departments four nights in the week, in ments fares, the contemplation of the

cars ever put out, each with a capacity of 190,000 pounds. The pay-roll is about \$65,000 monthly. The monthly pay-roll of the general offices is \$25,000, while the yard disburses about \$30,000 monthly.

country and Wales, lead from the West, im from Malaca, and palm oil from Syria. Many of the best buildings in the South are covered with plates manufactured at the splendid plant of this great enterprise.

THE BOLT DEPARTMENT.

The most recent addition to these works is the boit department. Here rods of from are put into heavy machines, which uppet heads on them, while other manufactured of the purpose of getting certain materials. the weather will permit.

It is estimated that 300 new dwellings

were erected during the past year, and several splendid business blocks were built. Among the latter may be mentioned the splendid from Beit building and Campbell avenue, the Cannoday building, and the Caldwell-Sites building, on Jef-

ferson street.

Three new churches have been built, and others are contemplated. The color-ed Baptists have erected a magnificent brick church, at a cost of \$20,000.

The city has entered upon a new era of prosperity, her people are contented and happy, and the new year opens with ex-ceedingly bright prospects.

ceedingly bright prospects.

The new Board of Trade has secured a \$160,000 cotton-mill, which will shortly be in operation, and a number of other in-dustries are under consideration.

NEWPORT NEWS.

Splendid Year-Great Develop-

NEWPOT NEWS, VA., December 30.—
Newport News closes to-morrow the
most eventful year in its history. The record of progress in the past twelve
months has been nothing short of phenominal. The outlook for 1500 gives pronominal. The outlook for 1920 gives pro-mise of even more substantial growth and it is confidently expected that the opening year of the new century will see impor-tant developments along new lines. The next census, which will be taken

shortly, will show the population of the city to be fully 25,000. Four years ago, to-day, the population was 2,600. The increase in the past year has been !" the neighborhood of 6,000.

neighborhood of them.

In the past year upwards of 500 new residences, stores and buildings of all kinds have been erected. It is impossible kinds have been erected. It is impossible for the real estate men to supply homes for all of the applicants, notwithstanding the fact the the building growth of Newport News is unparalleled in the South. They are wondering if the time will ever come when there will be enough houses in the city to supply the demand. Included in the number of new structures, which was an increase of about 100 over the number erected in 1803, are several costly stone churches, a number of large, brick, business buildings and blocks, and many attractive residences, both brick and frame. One important addition to many attractive residences, both brea and frame. One important addition to the attractive buildings is a new Aca-demy of Music, built at a cost of \$50,000, which will be completed in a few months. Business conditions here have never been better. Merchants in all branches are prospering, and new firms are continu-ally entering the field. Rents are regar-ded by outsiders as high, but in all trades well able to gay the rates asked. There is work in Newport News for everyone who wants it and there is no excuse for men being idle here. During the past year, the shipyard has kept 6,000 men constantly busy on a large list of valuable ship contracts. The Chesapeake & Ohio railroad and transportation compantes employ in the yards and piers about 1,500 men. Caskey's brass foundry is employing 200 meh, and the smaller industries have large forces busy.

This has been the shipyard's busiest

more operatives, have had a prosperous year. Vessels costing upwards of \$18,500.000 have kept the large force of skilled ship-builders bury. Two battle ships the Kearsarge and Kentucky-have been turned out and both smashed the battleship speed records and are decidedly the best warships of this class in the United States navy. They will go in commission in a few weeks. The Illinois, also a first-class battleship, has been considerably advanced and will be completed next summer. The keel for the monitor, Arkansas, has recently been laid, and the keel for the monster 12,500 ton battleship. Missouri, will soon go down.

Of the merchant vessels, four large tast freight steamships for the Morgan Lims

have been completed and are now in service between New York and New Orleans. The passenger and freight steamships. Cornus and Protons, for the Cromwell Line, have been launched and will soon leave on their maiden trips to New York. Heels have just been laid for the two new Pacific Mail leviathens, each of 18.

22.000,000. These ships are the largest ever reight steamships similar in dimensions o El Sud, El Norte, El Rio and El Cid, which were thruse ships will be sc. 600. A \$10.000 tug for the Morgan Line, Ei Amigo, was also built here this year.

The improvements at the shipyard in the same have been costly. Work on the

The improvements at the snipport in the year have been costly. Work on the new \$1,000,000 dry dock is more than half completed. This will be the largest dry dock in the world. Two new steel ship-building cranes have been creeted and a lot of new machinery has been installed. The Chesapeake & Ohio railroad recently started work on improvements at the A Recently Incoporated Concern

With a Bright Puture.

The A. B. Clarke & Son Hardware Company are successors of the famous old house of A. B. Clarke & Son, which was originally begun in 1822 by the late Augustus B. Clarke. The new concern was recently incorporated with increased capital to meet the demands of fits business, which has been growing right along through all the years past. Its officers and directors—all leading men in this city—are as follows:

G. Harvey Clarke, president.

Carroll H. Jones, vice-president.

Carroll H. Jo Stanhope Libby, secretary and treaburer.

R. G. Thornton, of the Richmond Paper

R. G. Thornton, of the Richmond Paper

Company.

W. E. Saunders, of the firm of Saunlers & Chambers, wholegale greceries. Notwithstanding the disasterous effects

> swept the Atlantic and of the yellow fever epidemic at the National Soldiers' Home, the commerce of Newport News this year, was heavier than for the preceding twelve months. The principal feature of the port's business was the remarkable increase in import values. The consumption entries were valued at \$1.951.518 and the immediate transportation entries at \$4.019.221, making a total for 1839 of \$5.570. The increase was \$2.468.559. The total value of exports was \$31.638.771. But for the fact, that many of the articles white. \$35,000,000. Flour was the principal article exported, from the standpoint of vaule, the figures for the year being \$1,309.75, retity shipped abroad was larger than last year. The total quantity of cereals ex-ported was 31,650,151 bushels.

ported was 31,650,151 bushels.

Newport News ranks seventh in the list of Atlantic and gulf commercial cities of the United States.

The total collections at the custom house, representing import duties principally, were £33,649,43. The increase over 1808 was \$173,795.87.

The coal shipments for the year amounted to 1,721,531 tons. But for the unfavorable weather conditions mentioned, the shipments of black diamonds would have been much greater.

have been much greater.

The total receipts at the city post-office for the fiscal year, 1898-99 were \$133,162,91.

This was an increase of \$37,609.03 over the preceding twelve months. The receipts

that the business is still increasing at the same phenominal rate.

The municipal improvements started

price of iron and zinc has advanced great-ity; the furnaces are making great profits; and are paying their hands betaged—the Dora Iron Furnace, under Superintendent Duane, of the Carter syn-dicate; the Pulaski Iron Furnace, under Superintendent Eckman, and the zinc furnace, under Vice-President George Heistein, of the Bertha Mineral Com-

The zinc furnace has added a number of warehouses for ore and built a number of officers' houses, and has on its yard a year's supply of ore.

In the county, all mining operations are very active, a number of iron-mines being opened up and successfully worked—all of them tributary to Pulaski City, the central point of the iron and zinc operations. All these industries have this year given abundant employment to laborers at living rates. at living rates.

The county, as well as the city of Pulaski, is prosperous. Cattle men have done unusually well in the last year. The cattle industry is assuming its former place as the best and most profitable agricultural interest in this famous grazing and stock-raising section, and the razor-back sorts of the so-called milk and butter breeds are givso-called milk and butter breeds are giv-ing place to the shorthorn, which is the great favorite of the stock-raisers, giving abundance of milk and butter and making prime beef as well, which is now commanding a very high price.

The county is about to build two new steel bridges across New river. It has

improved its roads steadily for the last five years, and will continue to do so in 1900. There is a snug balance to the county's credit in the treasury.

county's credit in the treasury.

Merchants in the city and county report an unsually active Christmas, and expect a fine trade next year.

The big work on the Norfolk and Western cut-off, near Radford City, through Pulaski county, will be completed in 1900. It will cost a great sum and employs a great many hands. Its tunnel is about three-quarters of a mile long, and its bridge-work and masonry are heavy and of the best quality.

Crops are promising.

Crops are promising.

DANVILLE. . A Year of Remarkable Advance

ment-New Enterprises. DANVILLE, VA., December 30.-(Special.)-The year just closed has been one of advancement along almost all lines for Danville, and one marked by the inauguration or completion of several important enterprises, public and private. For many years the tobacco sale, handling, and manufacture were the chief industries of the city, but within the past two decades the manufacture of cotton fabrics has grown from small proportions to a volume that rivals the tobacco interests. The Riverside Cotton-Mills Company, with a capital invested of more than a million dollars, operates six large mills, all located along the Dan river, and with water as the motive power. These mills, employing two thousand or more operatives, have had a prosperous year, never having had to shut down nor to reduce wages, and always finding ready and profitable sale for their products. The stockholders will draw their usual comfortable dividend. During the year this company, as a corporation made up of its stockholders, has acquired valued water-front property along the river, including vast and valuable water power, the consideration involved being \$100,000. It is the intention of this company to develop this power for the operation of new plants.

While the tobacco manufacturing interauguration or completion of several im-

ary 1, 1899, to January 1, 1909, the sales amount to more than \$2,000,000 pounds. The tobacco export trade of the city has grown during the year also. During the year the Continental Tobacco Company has erected and is now operating a large and splendidly-equipped brick tobacco storage and handling-house. The American Tobacco Company is negotiating with a view to the establishment here of a cheroot factory, to employ more than 160 cheroot factory, to employ more than 100

Among the new industries established during the year is that of the Danville Textile and Manufacturing Company, W. Hodnett, president; capital, now operating a yarn garment manufac-tory. It proposes to establish others.

tory. It proposes to establish others.

The oid properties, rights, and franchises of the Danville Street-Car Com pany have been acquired by a new \$333,930 syndicate of progressive young men, with William J. Payne, of Richmond, Va., as president. This company has secured an to cross the Dan river to and through North Danville, a section embracing nearly a third of the city's 20.000 people. It is proposed to reconstruct and thoroughly equip the entire system, build corollary branches, and operate a thoroughly modern system. The company also has authority to establish and operate an extensive electric-lighting and corons along. During the year the city has voted

During the year the chy has voied \$100,000 bonds and sold them readily and profitably, with the revenue from which it is proposed to puve Main street from Bridge to Floyd with granite blocks, and from Floyd to the Mount Vernen church with vitrified brick. Thirty or more other streets are to be paved with cobor magadamized.

or macadamized.

The building of the handsome gra-and white brick Union Passenger i tion of the Southern railway, now practi-cally completed, is another notable step in the city's advancement.

The effort on the part of the Business

Men's Association and citizens to secure more advantageous freight rates for the city is now with the Interstate Commerce Commission for adjudication.

NORFOLK.

wide expansion of the dry-goods district, now in progress. Granby street, an old and aristocratic thoroughfare, is being invaded by trade, many blocks north of the former bounds of the retail district. More than a dozen fine business blocks and office buildings are being erected throughout the city, the major portion of them being on Granby street. The magnificent new custom-house and post-office is rapidly approaching completion, and residences are going up all over the city. Norfolk is now surrounded by populous and beautiful suburbs, readily accessible by rapid-transit troiley lines. A new road, now nearing completion, designed to open now nearing completion, designed to open up the waterfront residence property at Sewell's Point, where a hotel is to be erected, will also connect by ferry to Old

gained its lost prestige as one of the world's great cotton marts. The records of the Cotton Exchange show that this year's increase in receipts, compressing, and shipments was very gratifying.

and shipments was very gratifying.

The coastwise shipping has increased marvellously, and Norfolk easily leads all other South Atlantic ports, both in tonnage and in the number of arrivals and departures of vessels. The Old Dominion Steamship Company, during the year, found it necessary to add to its large fleet the two finest vessels for the coastwise service affoat. They are the Hamilton and Jefferson, and are in service.

Increase in their terminal facilities have been made by the Southern railway, the Atlantic-Coast Line, the Norfolk and Western, Chesapeake and Ohio; New York, Philadelphia and Norfolk; Seaboard Air-Line, and by other railway systems

substantial, healthy growth. It has for some years past been steadily increasing in area and commercial importance, and the great prosperity it has enjoyed during the past year presages its continued

THE HILL CITY.

New Enterprises-The Year a Re-

cord-Breaker.

LYNCHBURG, December 22—(Special)—
The growth and development of Lynchburg as a manfacturing centre in the past three years, and especially in the year 1899 has been very rapid. Within that time styles, new manfacturing plants have strteen new manfacturing plants have been established as follows: A. L. Peters, Manfacturing Artificial Limbs; Hughes Manfacturing Artificial Limbs; Hughes Buggy Co., Manfacturing Buggies; Stamford Manfacturing Co., Manfacturing dyes; Lewis-Johns Manfacturing Co., Manfacturing Fertilizers; Lynchburg Hardware Manfacturing Co., Manfacturing Hardware; Lynchburg Dlamond Ice Co., Manfacturing Ice; Midland Hosiery; Co., Manfacturing Hosiery; Guggenheimer Manfactuhing Co., Manfacturing Pants; Lynchburg Plow Co., Manfacturing Plows &c. H. Evans & Co., Manfacturing Plug Tobacco; Lynchburg Chemical Co., Manfacturing Extracts &c., Taylor Wagon Co., Manfacturing Wagons; Thornhill Manfacturing Co., Manfacturing Wagons: Lynchburg Brass Manfacturing Wagons: Lynch Thornhill Mantacturing Co., Mantacturing Wagons: Lyneaburg Brass Manfacturing Co., Manfacturing Brass goods; Virginia Textile Co., Manfacturing Underwar; and Lyneaburg Paper Box Co., Manfacturing Paper Box Co., Besides these new plants nearly every one of the larger of the cid plants have braces and its cancilly. This is true of the

one of the larger of the old plants have increased its capacity. This is true of the Cotton Mill, which has doubled its capacity and will employ about 890 people. The Lynchburg Plow Co. has also doubled its capacity. John H. Heald & Co. Manfactures of Barytes &c. have also increased their capacity, as has the Glamorgan Pipe & Foundery Co. The year 1890 has been a record breaker for Lynchburg in jobbing as well as manfacturing, it being estimated that \$15,000,000 worth of goods will be distributed from here this year. It is believed that the manfacturing output will be doubled by the increases and the new plants and a conservative estimate of the output when the new plants get under full headway is \$3,000,600 per year against \$4,500,000 in 1895.

Along All Lines.

STAUNTON, VA., December 26.—(Special.)—As the New-Year dawns the trade sentiment in Stauaton is decidedly hopeful. While there has been no business boom, trade conditions in the city have been good. Bank deposits have been increased, and a larger volume of discounts shows a generally increased communication.

in monetary circles. Fewer failures than usual have characterized the business year. Everywhere a gentle, though grad-ual, glow has warmed the business world. Fires but a few have frightened this community, and good fortune and an effi-cient fire department having stood the

in good stead. While there is an improved opportunity creased wage rate, the farming interests complain that this is but an added bur-

little or no rise in selling price.

The community has been exempt of plague and postilence, and a general good health has set about Staunton's hearth-

Mechanics have had their services demanded this year in a constant and re-manerative way, and the amount of building is above the neual amount. Altogether, the outlook for 1309 is fiat-

Activity in All Lines-Great Improvements.

PETERSEURG, VA., December 30.-(Special.)-The trade of Petersburg during the present year shows a large increase over that of 1808, which was an exception-Merchants of every class express satisfaction with the year's work, and all of them are cheerful as to the future. In all

&c.—the increase of business has been large, and in the retail departments trate has been active and profitable. A gratihas been active and promator, tying feature of the F. ar's trade, testided to by all merchants, is that of small to by pur

to by all merchants, is that of small to be payments by purchasers. This fact shows a growing and general propertiy. Another gratifying instance of improvement in the commercial world is that labor of all kinds has been given employment, and that no one who desired work has failed to get it. Skilled labor has been always in demand. The cotton- and tobacco-factories have been run on full time, with full force, and their outputs have been great, with ready sales for all they could manufacture.

South Atlantic has enjoyed a year of unexampled prosperity. The city has spread itself over new territory. Never before have the building trades been as active here as at present, and never has the commercial importance of the port been so great. Wholesale business and manufactures of all kinds are flourishing, and nothing could better show the healthy condition of the estail trade than the wide expansion of the dry-goods district, now in progress. Granby street, an old and arisiocratic thoroughfare, is being invaded by trade, many blocks north of the former bounds of the retail district.

More than a dozen fine business blocks and office buildings are being erected throughout the city, the major portion of them being on Granby street. The magnificent new custom-house and post-office is rapidly approaching completion, and process. It is not to the prosperity and commercial importance of the dry-goods district, now in progress. Granby street, an old the manufacture of trunks, which are sent out to every State in the Union. The large peanut-factories have placed their products throughout the land, and the markets of the world have been in large part supplied with leaf and manufactured tobacco from Petersburg.

What has been done this year, if signs do not fail, will be done next year, and energy and capital will be exerted to add to the prosperity and commercial importance of the city.

FREDERICKSBURG.

FREDERICKSBURG.

A Most Prosperous Year-The People Jubilant.

FREDERICKSBURG, VA., December 20 .- (Special.)-An interview this week by the Dispatch correspondent with the leading wholesalers, jobbers, and the resame phenominal rate.

The mundelpal improvements started some time ago are about completed. The sewer system is almost ready for fervice, the two bridges over the Chesappasia. The important, and the past year has witnessed a marvellous increase in it. Many large fortunes have been made during the past year high sistents to pave the principal thorough-fares. Bonds to the amount of about 3300,609 will soon be issued for public improvements.

PULASKI CITY.

Rapid Strides—The Mining and Other Interests.

PULASKI, V.A., December 30.—(Special.)
Pulaski City and county have both had a prosperous year, and look forward to a still more prosperous one in 1900.

The city has improved in its streets, walks, and buildings; the iron and zinc furnaces have been enlarged and improved, and their output increased; the price of from and zinc furnaces are making great typic flar and coastwise points, several million tons of Pocahontas coal, the world-famous profile and a prosperous one in 1900.

The city has improved in its streets, walks, and buildings; the iron and zinc furnaces have been enlarged and improved, and their output increased; the price of from and zinc has advanced greatly; the furnaces are making great typic flar and coastwise points, several million tons of Pocahontas coal, the world-famous proved, and their autput increased; the price of from and zinc has advanced greatly; the furnaces are making great typicities and are avained that heads and coastwise points, several million tons of Pocahontas coal, the world-famous of Pocahontas coal, the world-famous proved, and a proved and their advanced greatly; the furnaces are making great typicity and are average and typic the furnaces are making great typicity and are average and typic the furnaces are making great typicity and are available to the complete the feeding world in the manufacturers and contractors, permits him to make the very said with the manufacturers and contractors, permits him to make the very and with the manufacturers and contractors, permits wit abreast with the times. The first of these improvements will be the erection of an electric light and power plant. This will be followed by general sewerage and the paving of the streets. Along with these will come valuable aid from the Federal Government, in the establishment of the Battle-fields Park, which means no little to this city and section. Northern capitalists have an option on the water-power, which, if purchased (and there seems no doubt that it will be), means the erection of several important industries, the plans for which have already been drawn. Altogether, therefore, the outlook for the Old Burg is decidedly encouraging, and our citizens are more jubilant than the writer has ever known them to be. There has also been a steady increase in the price of realty.

The Fortune of War.

Lieutenant Melklejohn, of the Gordon Highlanders, seems to have had a very hot time at Elandshargte. He received three bullets through his upper right arm, one through the right forearm, one through the right forearm, one through the left thigh, two through his helmet, a "snick" in the neck, one of his fingers was blown away, and his sword and scabbard were shot to pieces; but he is quite happy, and the loss of his right arm gives him little uneasiness. Between his chuckles he is heard to say: "The sily duffers didn't know I am left-handed!"

(Yonkers Statesman.)
Bill: Hear that fellow? He sings to
keep the wolf from the door.
Jill: I should think he would be emi-

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